

South Shaftsbury

Principal Village of Bennington's
Next Door Neighbor on the North

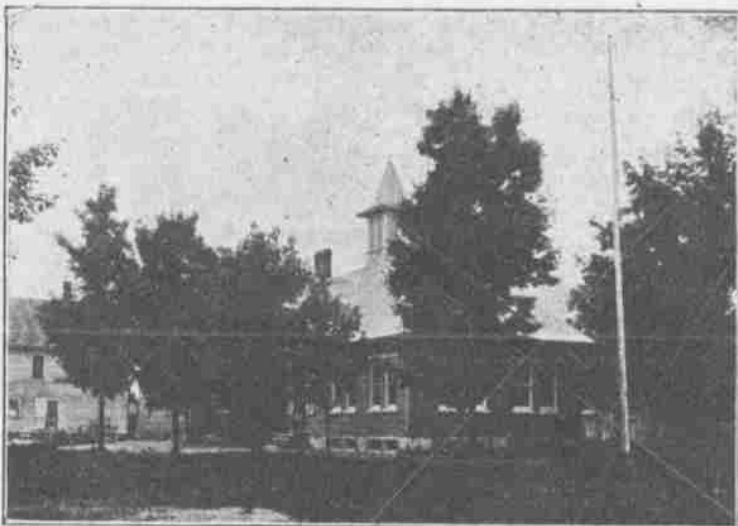
Here are Located the Eagle Square Works and Other Business Interests That Go to Make a Thriving Town.

Shaftsbury ranks with the best agricultural and cattle growing districts. The population stands fifth in the county. One hundred years ago was only second in the county in point of population, and the town has always been considered one of the most important divisions of the county.

In earlier days, many stirring events gave it prominence, important also, as it was the place of residence of some of the most active and determined patriots that led the opposition to New York claimants. Some of the most noted Tories lived on the grants and many lost their lands by confiscation.

The town of Shaftsbury was chartered by Benning Wentworth, (son of the province of New Hampshire) on August 20, 1761. Among the first families to locate in town were names familiar to those now living: Spencer, Cole, Willoughby, Doolittle, Waldo, Burlingame, Andrus, Downer, Beardsley, and Mattison. John Monroe, a Tory, captured Remember Baker of Arlington but Bennington parties rescued him before the Hudson river was crossed. Monroe sought British protection under Burgoyne and his property was sold to maintain Vermont government.

In July, 1775, David Galusha of Shaftsbury was chosen and lieutenant of the fourth company, regiment of Green Mountain Boys. One of the most prominent and loyal men was Jeremiah Clark. In June 1777, Major Clark and Gideon Olin were chosen representatives of Shaftsbury. Another old pioneer who made a good record during the Revolution, was Captain Jonas Galusha, who had command of a company from 1777 to 1780, both he and his men being in the battle of Bennington.



SCHOOL BUILDING.

He represented the town in 1800, was councillor from 1793 to 1798, was sheriff of the county from 1781 to 1786, and was governor of the state from 1809 to 1812, then again from 1815 to 1819. Even at this early day, mention is made of a tan yard at Shaftsbury and shoes were manufactured in town as early as 1777.

A highly respected family whose surname was Bottum, were in town as early as 1778, as an order from President Chittenden to Mr Bottum reads to deliver three sheep to one Mr Roberts. Certain ones of the present generation have been prominent for keeping fine sheep.

In 1778 the representatives for the town were Gideon Olin and John Millington. This town stood next to Bennington in raising militia; Capt. W. Dyer, and Jonas Galusha and Lieut. David Galusha were allowed \$1 cash for each man enlisted, \$20 for each soldier, and 12 shillings more for bounty. The quota set for Shaftsbury for provisions was as follows: 12,559 lbs. flour, 4,186 1/2 lbs of beef, 2,093 1/2 lbs salted pork, 354 bushels Indian corn and 177 bushels rye. This was for campaign purposes, the meat to be delivered to Captain Waldo and the flour and grain to Captain Galusha, (Inn keeper.) Three persons were to receive the provisions; these men were Ichabod Cross, Bliss Willoughby and Freegift Cole, to be delivered to Parker Cole for storage, that homestead now owned by Mrs Solomon Howard and son Freeman.

The events of the year 1778, so far as Shaftsbury was concerned were important only from the fact that the governor and council held a meeting at the home of Captain David Galusha.

It is remarkable that a township like this should have acquired a population in 1791 of 2000 persons, and has not varied more than 160 either above or below since. The greatest population was reached in 1770 the least in 1840, there being then 1,835 inhabitants.

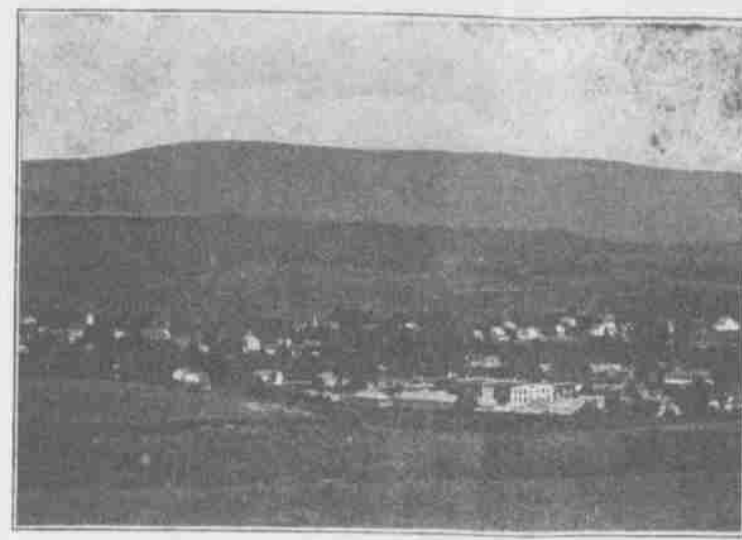
It was impossible to travel a mile along any waterways without finding a mill of some sort, mostly saw mills.

The loyalty of the town was shown in the second war with Great Britain, was again tried and proved during the disastrous war of 1861 to 1865. The town was required to send for their war quota 142 men and they provided five more than their number.

Stephen Whipple was the blacksmith of the village then, and in his shop, (now William's H. Whipple's grist mill,) was a trip-hammer run by water-power and on the anvil and with Mr Whipple's hammer the saws collected by one Silas Hawes were worked into squares.

The stone church in South Shaftsbury, now the business center of the town, was erected for a Universalist place of worship, erected by the people, and the stones were quarried on the Parker Cole farm, then owned by his son Uriah, who married Miss Barton, a sister of the late Hiram, who was town clerk for 55 consecutive years. The church was built in 1836 but the Universalist society was not long lived. The building has been given to the town, for a town hall not longer ago perhaps than 1899. The church having been built on the Cole estate, was to revert to the Cole heirs when it should cease to be used as a Universalist church. Mrs Mary Cole Houghton and son were sole heirs of the former Cole estate and gave the building for town purposes as above stated.

There was a blast furnace put up in South Shaftsbury about the year 1864 or 1865 by a man by the name of Frye, later sold, and operated by the Burdens of Troy. It was abandoned after a few years and



BIRDSYE VIEW OF SOUTH SHAFTSBURY.

The village is a thriving one and has grown quite steadily for about 27 years, thirty-three new homes having been erected here. There is one hotel owned and operated by Wallace Lyons and three stores doing a paying business. There is a well cared for creamery run by Chas. Everest, a grist mill operated by W. H.



COLE HALL.

Whipple and one resident physician, Frank E. Dean, M. D. Dr J. B. Woodhull has an office in the village and resides at North Bennington.

An Odd Fellows' society has been recently organized with rooms over the creamery. There is a good Village Improvement society continually adding to the place those things for its good. As a town we stand for no license. There is also a commodious school building with three departments.

Cole Hall, South Shaftsbury.

It was built by Uriah Cole in the year 1834, the stone all being quarried on what was then the Cole farm but has since passed into the hands of Mrs Solomon Howard and son Herman.

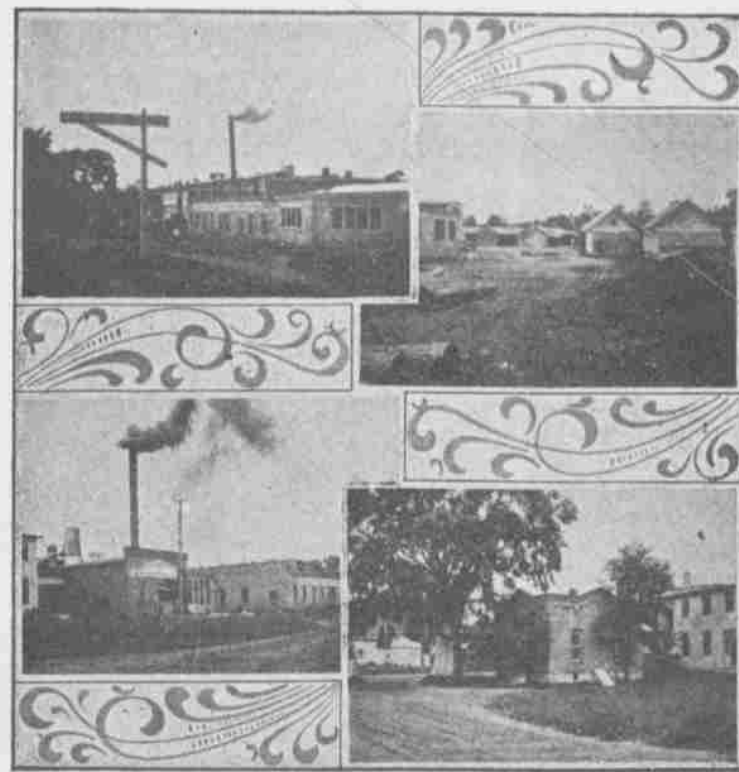
The hall was owned by the Monroe estate and was used for a Universalist church to be used for no other purpose.

The Cole heirs now living are, Mrs Mary Cole Houghton and Cole Houghton who presented the property to the town with the understanding that it should be used for no religious sect except the Universalist, but could be used for all other town purposes.

It stands in a very prominent position in the village and is kept in a good state of preservation and the citizens highly appreciate the gift.

Eagle Square Company.

This extensive manufacturing plant was established in 1864, its first president being Judge Dennis J. George. It started in a small way but today is one of the largest manufacturing concerns in this section of the country. Its present office



THE EAGLE SQUARE WORKS.

cers are: E. C. Gale of Troy, N. Y., president; F. L. Mattison of South Shaftsbury, vice president and manager; C. L. Mattison of South Shaftsbury, secretary and treasurer; directors, E. C. Gale, F. L. Mattison, C. S. Mattison and C. W. Cole.

Some of their principal goods manu-

factured are carpenters' boring machines and all kinds of finished and rough lumber, church pews, bars, etc. They do a high class of work in wood finishing, and can supply you to order anything that can be made in hard or soft wood finished lumber. They are under good management and employ a large number of hands making it of great benefit to the town.

School Building.

The grounds upon which the above school building now stands was formerly occupied by a small structure used for a school house. It was rebuilt in 1874 and with the increase of number of pupils, it was found necessary to again increase the size of the building.

Last year the town voted to make the necessary addition and a very pleasant and commodious apartment was added and at the same time was added all modern appliances. The building is heated by a hot air furnace. The grounds are pleasant and are made more beautiful by the efforts of the teachers by putting in shrubs and weeds.

The building is now tasked to its utmost, having only room for three grades. The building will accommodate 150 scholars. Why not add another room and have the 4th grade accommodated?

George A. Moon and Sons.

"For the want of a nail the shoe was lost,
For the want of a shoe the horse was lost,
For the want of a horse the rider was lost,
All for the want of a horse shoe nail."



MOON'S BLACKSMITH SHOP.

If at that time George A. Moon & Sons, blacksmiths and wagon makers, had been in business in the location the poet refers to, it might have been avoided.

George A. Moon was born at Petersburg in 1842 and came to Bennington in 1843. He came to South Shaftsbury at 23 years of age and was connected with the Hurd Iron company until they closed their works five years later. He worked for them at the

sight on which his plant now stands and built what he thought a commodious shop but he has been obliged to enlarge it from time to time.

Mr Moon married Miss Ruth Stratton for his first wife in 1860. She died in 1877. He afterward married Mary L. Noyes in May, 1879. He had eight children, three now living, two as partners in the business and one with the Eagle Square company doing machine forging.

As soon as Mr Moon's sons have attained the proper age he has given them an interest in the business which increases from year to year and I do not think you will find a shop of its kind better equipped for the business in Bennington County.

They manufacture all kinds of wagons and sleighs and are agents for factory wagons of every description. In blacksmithing their work can not be excelled. Special care is taken in horse shoeing making a specialty of cracked feet, interfering, faulty action etc. A trial given them makes you a customer of theirs.

C. R. & A. B. Hawkins.

They commenced business in 1890 and are both natives of the town of Shaftsbury. Having grown up in the town, they are well known as very capable in the mercantile business. Besides both being hard workers, they display much tact in conducting their business. They believe



C. R. & A. B. HAWKINS' STORE.

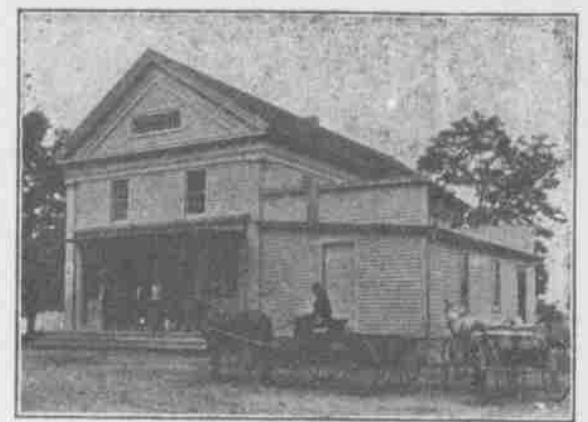
In employing good help and have in their employ, Messrs. Arthur C. Buffum and Joseph Tesler whose names are familiar all through this section.

The building which the above firm occupies was built in 1894 and run originally by C. E. Wentworth. They purchased the stock of the latter which inventoried

and has been with both firms for twenty years, he knows his business does not suffer in his absence.

He also has in his employ J. E. Adams and A. C. Dunham who are both efficient men.

He has a large commodious store and carries a large stock of general merchandise. The post office being located in his store, it makes it the headquarters for nearly all in that section.



F. L. MATTISON'S STORE.

Tacy Bros., South Shaftsbury.

The above firm is largely engaged in raising poultry. They started in the poultry business in 1889. In 1891 they bought the foundation of their stock, of T. C. Brownell of Shushan,

lowing have become extinct. Cong'l churches at Sandgate, Stratton, and Eden, N. Y. The following pastors have served the church since its organization:

Rev Mr Ketchel (?)	1854-1855
Rev Thomas W. Duncan	1855-1857
Rev Hayes	1859-
Rev Joshua Collins	1861-1865
Rev D. D. Francis	1865-1866
Rev Charles Redfield	1867-1868
Rev Wm O. Baldwin	1868-1872
Rev Charles Redfield	1872-1874
Rev J. F. Donaldson	1874-1881
Rev J. C. McCollum	1881-1884

Several lay workers have also served at different times when the church was without a regular pastor.

Besides the present pastor the only ones now living are Revs C. C. Cook of P. Rutland, Mass., and A. C. Field of Rutland.

For a time services were held in the schoolhouse in which the church was organized. In July, 1888, the present house of worship was dedicated. The sermon was preached by Rev Mr Hudson of Dorset, from Luke, xviii: 20.

The present deacons are Messrs H. W. Safford and Arnold Webb.



BAPTIST CHURCH.

Congregational Church of East Arlington.

"Agreeable to letters missive directed to the Congregational churches in Bennington, Manchester, Peru, Winoth and the Presbyterian church in Salem, N. Y., an ecclesiastical council convened in Sunderland at the house of John H. Sanderson, Oct. 24, 1843, for the purpose of considering the expediency of organizing a Congregational church, by request of certain individuals, members of Congregational churches, and residents in the towns of Sunderland and East Arlington."

The result of the above mentioned council, which met in the house now occupied by Wm M. Tibson, was favorable, and Rev James Anderson, moderator; Rev Joseph D. Wickham, scribe; together with Rev A. H. Lambert and Rev A. W. Nott were selected as a committee "to attend for the purpose of organizing a church at such time and place as may be designated by the petitioners."

The date decided upon was Nov. 2, 1843. Upon that date the adjourned session of the council met in Sunderland and, after attending to some preliminary arrangements, proceeded to the schoolhouse in East Arlington. Here religious exercises were held, consisting of prayer by Rev A. W. Nott and sermon by Rev A. H. Lambert of Salem, N. Y. After that the organization of the "Congregational church of Sunderland and East Arlington" was completed, with nine charter members.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, EAST ARLINGTON.

The above mentioned schoolhouse is the building now used as a dwelling and is occupied by Daniel Hayden. It stood at that time on the opposite side of the road.

The articles of faith adopted by this church were based upon those held by the Congregational church of Sandgate and, compared with views and creeds of more modern date, seem rather conservative.

The church seems to have occupied an independent position until July 5, 1862, when, upon the advice of its acting pastor, Rev D. D. Francis, it unanimously voted to adopt the constitution and by-laws of the Rutland and Bennington conference of Congregational churches, and thus enter the fellowship of that conference.

Not unlike other organizations, it has had seasons of refreshing and seasons of trials and losses. Numbers have been added to its membership from time to time, as indicated by the records, yet it has not been given to this church to enroll a large number in its membership. Of about 150 who have at some time been connected with this church only a little more than one-third of that number now comprise its membership.

Mr Thomas Jones, the oldest living member, united with this church in 1850, bringing a letter from the Cong'l church of Stratton. Among the churches which contributed to the membership of this church during the first decade of its history—from 1843 to 1853—the fol-

Mrs Lizzie Tacy
MILLINER

Full line Trimmed and Untrimmed
Hats, also fall line Ribbons

SOUTH SHAFTSBURY, VT.